

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Metal complex of the general formula $M(L)_n$, wherein M is metal selected from the transition metals, each L is independently selected and represents a ligand, and at least one L is vitamin B₁₂ (cyanocobalamin) or a derivative thereof which is bound through the nitrogen atom of its cyanide group to M, ~~which is an element selected from the transition metals~~, thus, forming a M-NC-[Co] moiety, wherein [Co] represents vitamin B₁₂ or its derivative without cyanide, and wherein n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.
2. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the transition metal M is selected from technetium, ruthenium, rhodium, rhenium, palladium, platinum, iridium and/or copper~~.
3. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein ~~the metal M is a radioisotope of the elements Re or Tc, such as rhenium or technetium as ^{99m}Tc, ¹⁸⁸Re, ¹⁸⁶Re~~.
4. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1-1~~, wherein when M is technetium or rhenium, the other ligands n is 4, 5 or 6, and three occurrences of L are comprise three carbonyl groups (CO's) and optionally a bidentate ligand, optionally coupled to another metal complex or other molecule, such as a biologically active molecule or fluorescing agent.
5. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in claim ~~4~~18, wherein the bidentate ligand is selected from ~~comprises~~ two aliphatic and/or aromatic amine parts, two aliphatic or aromatic amine parts, or one aliphatic or aromatic amine part and an anionic group such as a carboxylate, a thiolate or a hydroxylate.
6. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in claim ~~5~~18, wherein the bidentate ligand is selected from α-amino acids or derivatives of picolinic acid.
7. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1-3~~, wherein when M is platinum, and L is independently selected from ligands containing N, S, P, O, C as the metal binding atom or any other donor with one non-binding electron pair available for coordination to the metal, ~~optionally coupled to another metal complex or another molecule~~.

~~such as a biologically active molecule or a fluorescing molecule.~~

8. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in ~~any one of the~~ claims 4 or 7, wherein an occurrence of L is a bidentate ligand coupled to a ~~the other~~ molecule is selected from the group consisting of fluorescing agents, ~~pharmacophores with cytotoxic, cytostatic or other pharmacological activities, optical dyes, NIR dyes, or phosphorescent dyes, and pharmacophores.~~

9. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bidentate ligand is coupled to a fluorescing agent is selected from the group consisting of fluoresceine, pyrene, acridine, and dansyl.

10. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bidentate ligand is coupled to a pharmacophores selected from the group consisting of cytotoxic agent is tamoxifen, methotrexate or and cyclophosphamid.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) Process for preparing a metal complex ~~as claimed in any one of the claims 1-11, comprising:~~

~~mixing of vitamin B₁₂ or a derivative thereof with a precursor complex of the general formula M(L)_{n-1}L', wherein M is a transition metal, n is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, L' is a ligand to be substituted by the vitamin B₁₂ or the derivative thereof, and each L is independently selected and is a ligand, to obtain a metal complex with a stable [Co] CN-M bridge.~~

13. (Currently Amended) Precursor complex for use in the preparation of metal complex of claim 1 and having the general formula M(L)_{n-1}L', wherein M is a transition metal, n is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, L' is a ligand to be substituted, and each L is independently selected and is a ligand ~~for use in the preparation of metal complexes as claimed in any one of the claims 1-11.~~

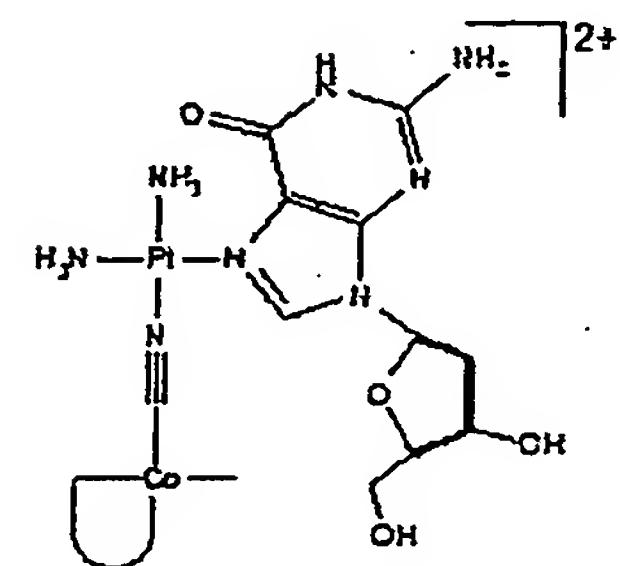
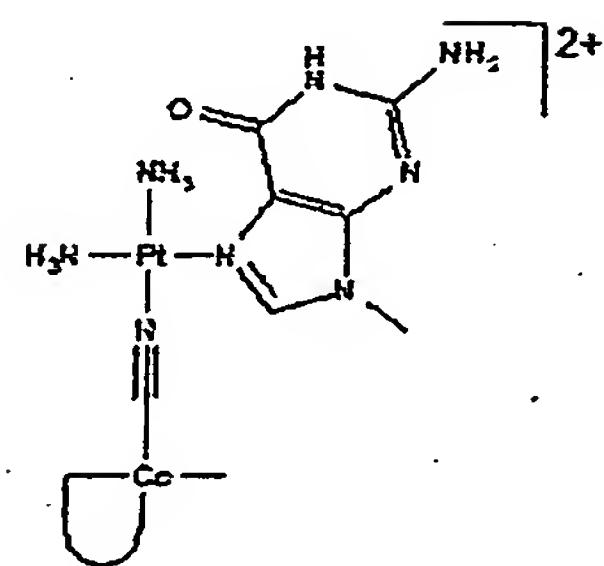
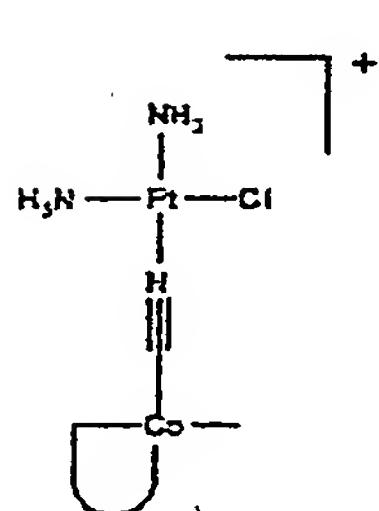
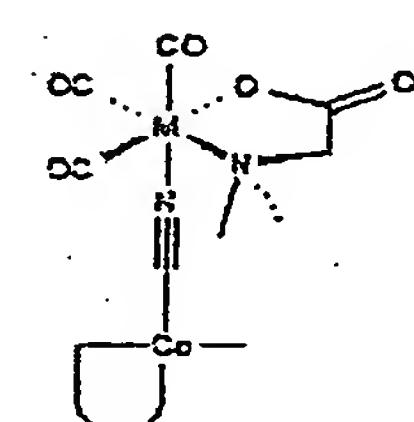
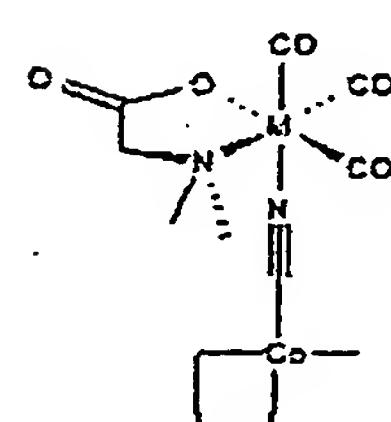
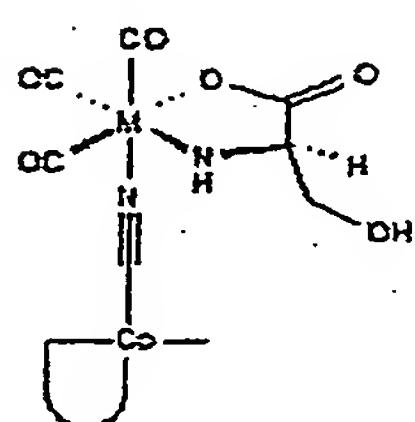
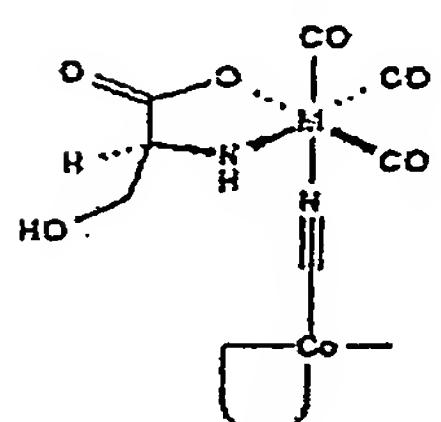
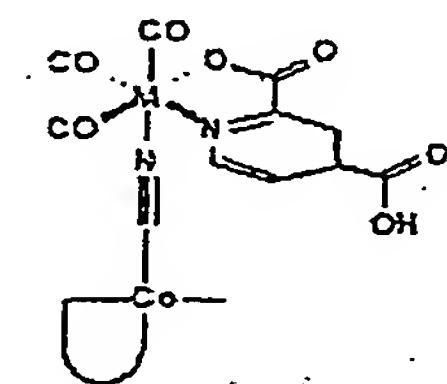
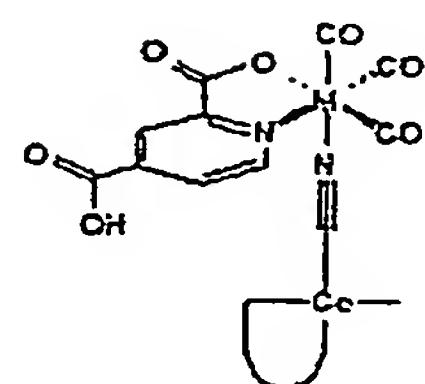
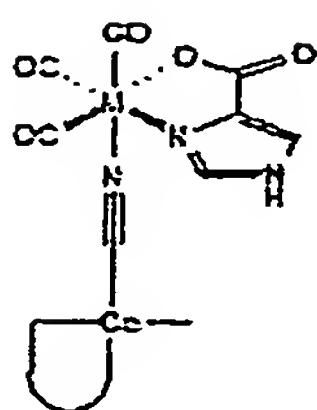
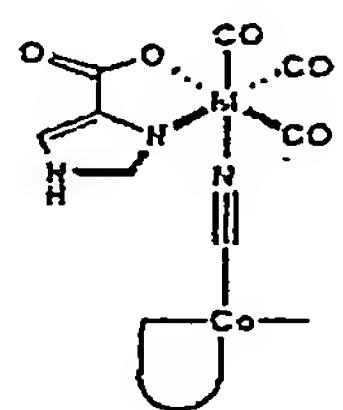
14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Metal~~ Use of a metal complex as claimed in ~~any one of the~~ claims 1-11, ~~for use in radiodiagnostics, chemotherapy or radionuclide therapy.~~

16. (Currently Amended) Metal complex as claimed in ~~any one of the~~ claims 1-11, wherein M is a catalytically active metal ~~for use in catalysis.~~

17. (New) Metal complex as claimed in claim 3, wherein M is ^{99m}Tc , ^{188}Re , or ^{186}Re .
18. (New) Metal complex as claimed in claim 4, wherein an occurrence of L is a bidentate ligand.
19. (New) Metal complex as claimed in claim 4, wherein an occurrence of L is a bidentate ligand coupled to a metal complex, a biologically active molecule or a fluorescing agent.
20. (New) Metal complex as claimed in claim 5, wherein the bidentate ligand comprises one aliphatic or aromatic amine part and an anionic group, wherein the anionic group is a carboxylate, a thiolate or a hydroxylate.
21. (New) Metal complex as claimed in claim 1, wherein M is platinum, L is independently selected from:
ligands containing N, S, P, O, C as the metal binding atom or any other donor with one non-binding electron pair available for coordination to the metal; and
ligands containing N, S, P, O, C as the metal binding atom or any other donor with one non-binding electron pair available for coordination to the metal coupled to another metal complex, a biologically active molecule, or a fluorescing molecule.

22. (New) Metal complex as claimed in claim 1 having a structural formula selected from the group consisting of:



23. (New) Precursor complex as claimed in claim 13 having a structural formula selected from the group consisting of:

